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- (54) Water-curable, silane modified chlorosulfonated olefinic polymers and a process for the preparation thereof.
- (57) Water-curable, silane modified chlorosulfonated olefinic polymers, particularly desirable for use as coverings about wires and cables, produced by reacting a mixture containing a chlorosulfonated olefinic polymer and a hydrolyzable silane having cyclic oxygen, sulfur or nitrogen functionality.

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WATER-CURABLE, SILANE MODIFIED
CHLOROSULFONATED OLEFINIC POLYMERS AND A PROCESS
FOR THE PREPARATION THEREOF

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

5 This invention is directed to water-
curable, silane modified chlorosulfonated olefinic
polymers and to a process for the preparation
thereof by reacting a chlorosulfonated olefinic
polymer with a hydrolyzable silane having cyclic
10 oxygen, sulfur or nitrogen functionality. The
silane modified chlorosulfonated olefinic polymers
of this invention can be water-cured, in a rela-
tively short period of time, to crosslinked
products characterized by a number of desirable
15 properties including flexibility, resistance to
chemical solvents, ozone and abrasion and also
resistance to outdoor weathering.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Compositions, based on chlorosulfonated olefinic polymers, are commercially attractive systems, as once cured to crosslinked products, are
5 characterized by a number of desirable properties, including (a) resistance to chemical solvents (b) resistance to ozone (c) resistance to abrasion (d) resistance to outdoor weather and (d) excellent use temperatures, i.e. flexibility over a
10 temperature range of about -20°C to about 120°C . Consequently, cured chlorosulfonated olefinic polymers and compositions based thereon, characterized by the properties described above, find uses in many diverse applications including coverings
15 about wires and cables, hoses for conveying chemicals, gaskets which are exposed to solvents and roofing materials.

As a general rule, curing of chlorosulfonated olefinic polymers has been effected by
20 admixing these polymers with curing agents such as metal oxides, exemplified by magnesium oxide and lead oxide, or polyfunctional alcohols, exemplified by ethylene glycol and pentaerythritol, and subjecting the resultant compositions to
25 elevated temperatures, on the order of about 150°C , for periods of time of about 30 minutes. At the elevated temperatures involved, it has been found that such compositions tend to prematurely crosslink, commonly referred to as "scorching".
30 In such instances, the processing, for example, extrusion, of the compositions has to be stopped and the prematurely crosslinked products removed from the system. Interruption of the process is

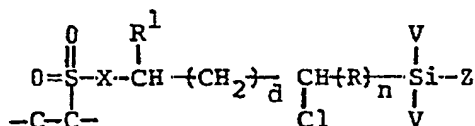
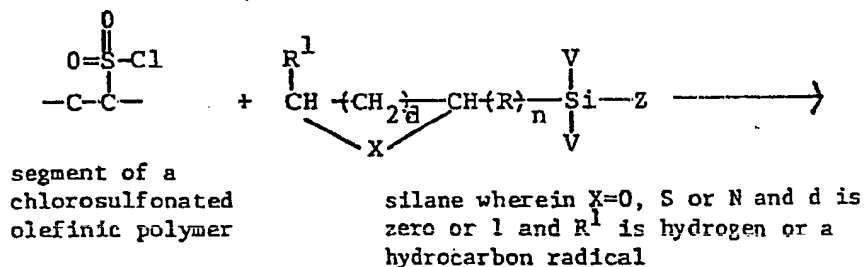
costly and adds to the overall cost of the finished product.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides for water-curable, silane modified chlorosulfonated olefinic polymers, produced by reacting a mixture containing a chlorosulfonated olefinic polymer and a hydrolyzable silane having cyclic oxygen, cyclic sulfur or cyclic nitrogen functionality.

The water-curable, silane modified chlorosulfonated olefinic polymers of this invention can be cured by moisture in a relatively short period of time, to crosslinked products free of undesirable scorch. The crosslinked products so produced are characterized by the properties previously discussed in reference to chlorosulfonated olefinic polymers and find utility in applications also previously discussed.

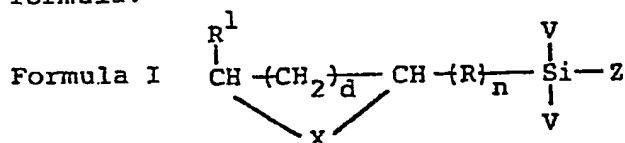
The reaction between a chlorosulfonated olefinic polymer and a silane having cyclic oxygen, sulfur or nitrogen functionality can be depicted as follows:



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As can be seen, no undesirable by-products, such as HCl which could cause scorching, are formed.

Illustrative of suitable silanes, for purposes of this invention, have the general formula:



wherein X is oxygen, sulfur or nitrogen^{*}; R is a hydrocarbon radical or oxy substituted hydrocarbon radical; each V, which can be the same or different, is hydrogen, a hydrocarbon radical or a hydrolyzable group; Z is a hydrolyzable group; n is an integer having a value of one to 18 inclusive; d is an integer having a value of zero or 1, and R¹ is hydrogen or a hydrocarbon radical.

Exemplary of suitable radicals for R are alkylene radicals having one to 18 carbon atoms inclusive, preferably one to 6 carbon atoms inclusive, such as methylene, ethylene, propylene, butylene, hexylene and the like; alkoxy radicals having one to 18 carbon atoms inclusive, preferably one to 6 carbon atoms inclusive such as methoxy-methyl, methoxypropyl, ethoxyethyl, ethoxypropyl, propyloxypropyl, propyloxybutyl, propyloxyhexyl and the like. R¹ is a hydrocarbon radical, preferably an alkyl radical having a maximum of 4 carbon atoms as specifically identified for V below or phenyl.

As stated, each V can be hydrogen, a hydrocarbon radical or a hydrolyzable group.

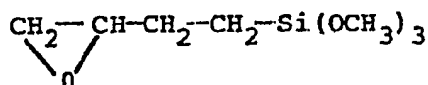
Illustrative of suitable radicals are alkyl radicals having one to 18 carbon atoms, inclusive, preferably one to 6 carbon atoms inclusive such as methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, n-hexyl and the like; alkoxy radicals having one to 18 carbon atoms

^{*} /a nitrogen containing group, e.g. >NH/

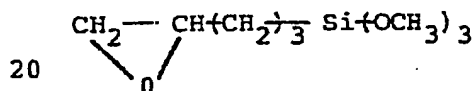
inclusive, preferably one to 6 carbon atoms inclusive, such as methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, hexoxy, dodecyloxy, methoxyethoxy and the like; aryl radicals having 6 to 8 carbon atoms inclusive
 5 such as phenyl, methylphenyl, ethylphenyl and the like; cycloaliphatic radicals having 5 to 8 carbon atoms inclusive such as cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cyclohexyloxy and the like.

Z, as previously stated, is a hydro-
 10 lyzable group among which can be noted alkoxy radicals as previously described for R; oxy aryl radicals such as oxyphenyl and the like; halogens such as chlorine and the like.

Among suitable silanes falling within
 15 the scope of Formula I are the following:

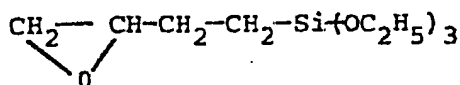


β -(1,2-epoxyethane)ethyltrimethoxy silane

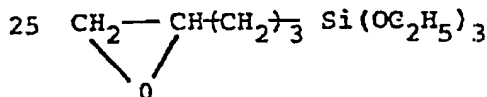


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γ -(1,2-epoxyethane)propyltrimethoxy silane

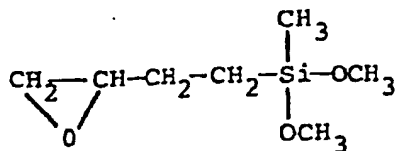


β -(1,2-epoxyethane)ethyltriethoxy silane



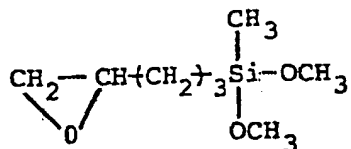
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γ -(1,2-epoxyethane)propyltriethoxy silane



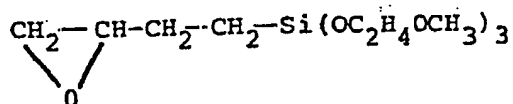
β -(1,2-epoxyethane)ethylmethyldimethoxy silane

5

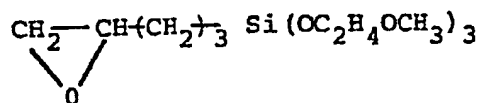


γ -(1,2-epoxyethane)propylmethyldimethoxy silane

10

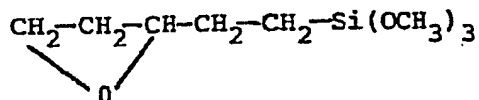


β -(1,2-epoxyethane)ethyl-tris-(ethoxymethoxy) silane



γ -(1,2-epoxyethane)propyl-tris-(ethoxymethoxy) silane

15



β -(1,3-epoxypropane)ethyltrimethoxy silane; and

the sulfur and nitrogen analogues of these specific compounds. Also suitable are compounds such as

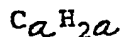
20 β -(3,4-epoxycyclohexane)ethyltrimethoxy silane and the like.

Olefinic polymers which are chlorosulfonated and subsequently rendered water-curable, in accordance

with the present invention, are normally solid homopolymers and interpolymers generally solids at room temperature of monoolefins and diolefins.

Suitable polymerizable monoolefins have the
5 general formula:

Formula II



wherein a has a value of at least 2. Exemplary
of olefins falling within the scope of Formula II
10 are: ethylene, propylene, butene-1, pentene-1,
hexene-1, heptene-1, octene-1 and the like.

Suitable polymerizable diolefins have the
general formula:

Formula III



wherein β has a value of at least 3. Exemplary
of diolefins falling within the scope of Formula
III are: propadiene (allene), 1,3-butadiene, 1,4-
pentadiene, 2-methyl-1,3-butadiene, 1,5-hexa-
20 diene, 1,4-octadiene and the like.

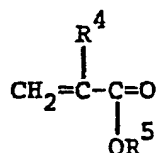
Illustrative of monomers which can be
polymerized with monoolefins and/or diolefins are
styrene, p-methyl styrene, α -methyl styrene,
p-chloro styrene, vinyl naphthalene and similar
25 aryl olefins and substituted aryl olefins,
acrylic and substituted acrylic acids,
nitriles such as acrylic acid,
acrylonitrile, methacrylonitrile, α -chloro-
acrylonitrile and the like; vinyl

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acetate, vinyl methyl ketone, vinyl methyl ether, vinylidene chloride and similar polymerizable compounds containing a single olefinic double bond, provided that the olefinic content is
5 at least about 0.1 percent by weight, preferably 1 to about 50 percent by weight.

Other suitable polymerizable monomers are the alkyl acrylates which fall within the scope
10 of the following formula:

Formula IV:



15 wherein R^4 is hydrogen or methyl and R^5 is alkyl having one to 8 carbon atoms inclusive. Illustrative compounds encompassed by this formula are: methyl acrylate, ethyl acrylate, t-butyl acrylate, methyl methacrylate, n-
20 butyl acrylate, n-butylmethacrylate, 2-ethylhexyl acrylate, chloroethyl acrylate and the like and mixtures thereof.

Particularly desirable polymers are alkylene-alkyl acrylate copolymer generally having
25 a density (ASTM D-1505 with conditioning as in ASTM D-147-72) of about 0.92 to about 0.94 and a melt index (ASTM D-1238 at 44 psi tested pressure) of about 0.1 to about 500 decigrams per minute. These copolymers generally have
30 about one to about 50 percent by weight combined alkyl acrylate, preferably about 2 to about 20

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percent by weight combined alkyl acrylate.

It is to be understood that mixtures of olefins falling within the scope of Formula II and/or diolefins falling within the scope of Formula III can be polymerized to produce suitable olefinic polymers.

Preferred polymers are ethylene-propylene copolymers, ethylene-butene copolymers and the like produced under low pressures on the order of about 15 to 300 psi, using a chromium oxide catalyst modified with titanium as disclosed in U.S. Patent 4,011,382 granted March 8, 1977.

Particularly desirable olefinic polymers, which are chlorosulfonated and then reacted with the silanes described, have densities (ASTM D-1505) of about 0.875 to about 0.970, preferably about 0.875 to about 0.930. These olefinic polymers can be prepared by reacting a mixture containing about 50 to about 99.9 mole percent, preferably about 75 to about 96 mole percent ethylene and from about 0.1 to about 50 mole percent and preferably about 4 to about 25 mole percent of one or more C₃ to C₈ ~~alpha~~ olefins such as propylene, butene-1, pentene-1, 4-methyl-pentene-1, hexene-1, heptene-1, octene-1 and the like.

The chlorosulfonated olefinic polymers are conveniently prepared by reacting the desired olefinic polymer with chlorine and sulfur dioxide in a manner described subsequently in this application or with sulfuryl chloride as described in U.S. Patent 4,145,491 granted March 20, 1979 and generally have a crystallinity of below about 10 percent, as measured by a Differential Scanning Calorimeter (DSC, DuPont-990).

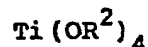
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Particularly desirable chlorosulfonated olefinic polymers contain about 5 to about 40 percent by weight chlorine and about 0.5 to about 10 percent by weight sulfur, based on the total weight of the chlorosulfonated olefinic polymer.

The reaction between the chlorosulfonated olefinic polymers and the hydrolyzable silanes proceeds in the absence of a catalyst although an organo titanate catalyst is preferably used.

Suitable organo titanates can be exemplified by titanates falling within the scope of Formula V below.

Formula V



wherein each R^2 , which can be the same or different, is hydrogen or a hydrocarbon radical having one to 18 carbon atoms inclusive, preferably one to 14 carbon atoms inclusive. By definition, at least one R^2 is a hydrocarbon radical.

Exemplary of suitable hydrocarbon radicals are alkyl radicals such as methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, butyl, octyl, lauryl, myristyl, stearyl and the like; cycloaliphatic radicals such as cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl and the like, aryl radicals such as phenyl, methylphenyl, chlorophenyl and the like; alkaryl radicals such as benzyl and the like.

Particularly desirable titanates falling within the scope of Formula V are those wherein each R^2 is alkyl having one to 18 carbon atoms

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inclusive, preferably one to 14 carbon atoms inclusive, exemplified by tetrabutyl titanate, tetraisopropyl titanate and the like.

Organo titanates falling within the scope
5 of Formula V are known compounds and can be conveniently prepared as described in U.S. Patent 2,984,641 to Leon E. Wolinski patented May 16, 1961.

Other suitable organo titanates are the
10 organo titanium chelates such as tetraoctylene glycol titanium, triethanol amine titanate, titanium acetyl acetonate, titanium lactate and the like.

In those instances wherein a catalyst is
used, it is used in catalytic amounts, that is,
15 in amounts sufficient to catalyze the reaction between the chlorosulfonated olefinic polymer and the hydrolyzable silane. Generally, this amount is about 0.1 to about 20 percent by
weight, preferably about 0.5 to about 10 percent
20 by weight, based on the weight of the chlorosulfonated olefinic polymer.

As shown by the equation previously set forth, the reaction of the silane with the chlorosulfonated olefinic polymer takes place
25 between the sulfonyl chloride group of the polymer and the cyclic moiety of the silane. Consequently, the actual amount of silane used depends on the concentration of the sulfur, which determines the number of sulfonyl chloride groups of
30 the polymer. One cyclic oxygen, sulfur or nitrogen group is deemed to react with one sulfonyl group. The higher the sulfur content of the polymer, the higher is the amount of silane that can be used, which in turn, results in a higher

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degree of crosslinking. Thus by varying the sulfur content of the polymers and in turn the amount of silane, the "degree" of cure can be varied. This allows for the preparation of a wide variety of products for different end use applications. With sulfur contents on the order of about 0.5 to about 10 percent by weight, the amount of silane used in the reaction mixtures can vary from about 0.1 to about 50 percent by weight, preferably about 0.5 to about 10 percent by weight based on the weight of the chlorosulfonated polymer.

The temperature at which this reaction is carried out is not critical and can vary, conveniently, from about 80°C to about 300°C and preferably from about 130°C to about 230°C.

The reaction can be carried out at atmospheric, subatmospheric or superatmospheric pressure, although atmospheric pressure is preferred.

Recovery of the silane modified polymer is effected by allowing the contents of the reaction apparatus to cool and discharging the product to a suitable receiver for storage, preferably under an inert gas blanket.

The reaction can be carried out in any suitable apparatus, preferably an apparatus in which the polymer is subjected to mechanical working such as a Brabender mixer, a Banbury mixer or an extruder. The silane can be added to the fluxed polymer and catalyst, if desired, then added. Alternatively, the catalyst, if desired, can be added to the polymer prior to the addition of the silane. Also, the catalyst and silane can

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be premixed and added to the fluxed polymer.

The curing or crosslinking of the silane modified polymer is effected by exposing the polymer to moisture. The moisture present in the atmosphere is usually sufficient to permit curing to occur over a period of 48 hours.

The rate of curing, in a matter of 30 minutes, can be accelerated by exposure to an artificially humidified atmosphere or immersion in water, and heating to elevated temperatures or by exposure to steam.

Generally, curing is effected at temperatures on the order of about 23°C to about 100°C, preferably about 70°C to about 100°C.

Additionally, the crosslinking may be carried out in the presence of a silanol condensation catalyst.

A wide variety of materials which function as silanol condensation catalysts and which are known in the art can be employed in the crosslinking process. Such materials include metal carboxylates such as dibutyltin dilaurate, dibutyltin diacetate, dibutyltin dioctoate and the like.

To the silane modified polymers of this invention may be added various additives, in amounts well known in the art, such as fillers among which can be mentioned carbon black, clay, talc, (magnesium silicate), calcium carbonate, silica, aluminum hydroxide and the like.

The silane modified polymers can be rendered flame retardant by the addition thereto of halogen containing flame retardants such as decabromodiphenyl oxide, chlorinated polyethylene, polyvinyl

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chloride and halogenated paraffin waxes, alone, or
in admixture with organic or inorganic antimony
compounds such as antimony oxide and/or alkaline
earth metal oxides, carbonates, hydroxides and
5 sulfates. Among such alkaline earth metal compounds
can be noted calcium oxide, calcium carbonate, cal-
cium hydroxide, calcium sulfate, magnesium oxide,
magnesium carbonate, magnesium hydroxide and
magnesium sulfate.

10 These additives are conveniently added to
the reacted product of the silane and chloro-
sulfonated polymer.

It is to be noted that mixtures of reactants,
catalysts, additives and the like can be used if
15 so desired.

Test procedures noted in this specification
were conducted as follows:

20	<u>Tensile Modulus</u> (one percent secant modulus) psi	A film, 4 inches by 4 inches by 0.020 inch was compression molded at a temperature of 130°C - 150°C and its modulus measured according to ASTM 638
25		
	<u>Tensile Strength</u> (psi)	A film prepared as des- cribed for tensile modulus was tested accord- ing to ASTM 638
30		

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As can be seen for the results tabulated in Table 1, compositions of this invention have tensile strengths and tensile moduli well within the range required for commercial applications, as set forth below:

Properties of Cured (No Additives)		
Chlorosulfonated Polymers Suitable For Commercial Applications		
	Tensile Strength	25°C
10	(psi)	600 - 1300
	Tensile Modulus	
	(psi)	400 - 1400

In the examples which follow, the water-curable, silane modified olefinic polymers were prepared as follows:

Chlorosulfonation

Two hundred grams of a polyethylene having a density of 0.910 were fed into a two-liter, glass lined, stainless steel reactor (Hastelloy), equipped with a thermocouple thermometer and a motor activated U shaped Hastelloy stirrer. A Hastelloy dip tube, about 2 cm in diameter, was used to feed gaseous chlorine and sulfur dioxide modifying agents into the reactor. Unreacted modifying agents and HCl by product were vented to a collection trap containing 25 percent aqueous NaOH.

After the polymer was heated to the desired

temperature, between about 50°C to 100°C, the polymer was stirred as gaseous chlorine and sulfur dioxide were fed into the reactor. The rate of feed for the chlorine was about 8 to 15 grams per hour. The rate of feed for the sulfur dioxide was 2-4 grams per hour.

During the course of the reaction, samples of the modified polymer were taken from the reactor and tested for crystallinity and sulfur and chlorine content. When the reaction had proceeded to a point at which the crystallinity of the modified polymer had reached less than about 10 percent, the flow of gaseous modifying agents was terminated. The chlorosulfonated polymer was allowed to cool in the reactor while being purged with nitrogen in order to remove HCl and unreacted chlorine and/or sulfur dioxide.

Crystallinity was measured by a Differential Scanning Calorimeter (DSC) using a DuPont-990 analyzer with a pressure DSC cell.

The polymer so produced, containing 26 percent by weight chlorine and 1.1 percent by weight sulfur, was then used in the preparation of water-curable, silane modified polymers as described in the following examples.

Example 1

Forty grams of the chlorosulfonated polymer were placed in a Brabender mixer which had been preheated to a temperature of 130°C. The polymer

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was fluxed for two to five minutes under a nitrogen gas flow and to the fluxed polymer there was added, slowly, 3.2 grams (0.0136 mole) of

5 γ -(1,2-epoxyethane)propyltrimethoxy silane. The reaction mixture was then fluxed for 30 seconds. The resultant silane modified chlorosulfonated polymer was allowed to cool, under a nitrogen gas flow, to ambient temperature. The cooled polymer was molded into film, in a manner previously described, and the film placed in a water bath
10 for 7 hours. The temperature of the water bath was about 70°C.

The cured film was then used to determine properties tabulated in Table 1.

15

Example 2

Forty grams of the chlorosulfonated polymer were placed in a Brabender mixer which had been preheated to a temperature of 130°C. The polymer was fluxed from two to five minutes under a nitrogen
20 gas flow and to the fluxed polymer there was added, slowly, 3.2 grams of γ -(1,2-epoxyethane)propyltrimethoxy silane, followed by 4 grams of tetraisopropyl titanate and one drop of dibutyltin dilaurate. The reaction mixture was
25 then fluxed for 30 seconds. The resultant silane modified chlorosulfonated polymer was allowed to cool, under a nitrogen gas flow, to ambient temperature. The cooled polymer was molded into film, in a manner previously described, and the

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film placed in a water bath for 7 hours. The temperature of the water bath was about 70°C.

The cured film was then used to determine properties tabulated in Table 1.

Example 3

This example was carried out as described for Example 2 with the exception that 1.5 grams of γ -(1,2-epoxyethane)propyltrimethoxy silane and 1.8 grams of tetraisopropyl titanate were used.

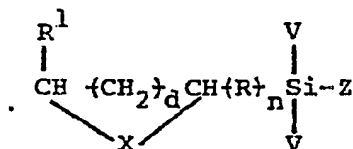
Properties of the cured film are tabulated in Table 1.

Table 1

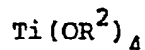
		Example <u>1</u>	Example <u>2</u>	Example <u>3</u>
15	Tensile Strength (psi) 25°C	670	1160	650
	Tensile Modulus (psi) 25°C	1030	1400	850

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A composition of matter comprising a chloro-sulfonated olefinic polymer and a hydrolyzable silane having a cyclic oxygen, cyclic sulfur or cyclic nitrogen functionality and, if desired, an organo titanate.
2. A composition of matter comprising a chloro-sulfonated olefinic polymer, a hydrolyzable silane having the formula:



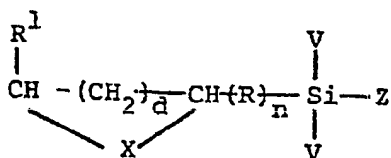
wherein X is oxygen, sulfur or nitrogen, R is a hydrocarbon radical or an oxy substituted hydrocarbon radical, each V is hydrogen, a hydrocarbon radical or a hydrolyzable group, Z is a hydrolyzable group, n is an integer having a value of one to 18 and d is an integer having a value of zero or one; R^1 is hydrogen or a hydrocarbon radical; and an organo titanate having the formula:



wherein each R^2 is hydrogen or a hydrocarbon radical having one to 18 carbon atoms, provided that at least one R^2 is a hydrocarbon radical.

3. A composition of matter as defined in either or both of claims 1 and 2 wherein X is oxygen, sulfur or nitrogen, d is zero and R¹ is hydrogen.
4. A composition of matter as defined in claim 2 wherein d is zero and, if desired, wherein R¹ is hydrogen.
5. A composition of matter as defined in one or more of claims 1 to 4 wherein the olefinic polymer is a polymer of ethylene and at least one C₃ to C₈ alpha olefin.
6. A composition of matter as defined in one or more of claims 1 to 5 wherein said organo titanate is present in an amount of about 0.1 to about 20 percent by weight, preferably about 0.5 to about 10 percent by weight, and said silane is present in an amount of about 0.1 to about 50 percent by weight, preferably 0.5 to about 10 percent by weight, based on the weight of a chlorosulfonated olefinic polymer having a sulfur content of about 0.5 to about 10 percent by weight.
7. A composition of matter as defined in claim 2 wherein d is 0, R is alkylene, each V and Z are alkoxy, X is oxygen and R¹ is hydrogen.
8. A composition as defined in one or more of claims 1 to 7 wherein R¹ is hydrogen, an alkyl having a maximum of 4 carbon atoms or phenyl.
9. A composition of matter as defined in claims 1-8 wherein said olefinic polymer is chlorosulfonated polyethylene, said silane is γ -(1,2-epoxyethane)-propyltrimethoxy silane and said organo titanate is tetraisopropyl titanate.
10. A composition of matter as defined in claims 1-9 wherein said olefinic polymer is an alkylene-alkyl acrylate.

11. A water-curable, silane modified polymer of a chlorosulfonated olefinic polymer and a silane defined in one or more of claims 1 to 4 and 7 to 9.
12. A water-curable, silane modified polymer as defined in claim 11 containing about 0.5 to about 10 percent by weight sulfur, based on the weight of the chlorosulfonated olefinic polymer
13. A water-curable, silane modified copolymer as defined in either or both of claims 11 and 12 wherein the olefinic polymer is a polymer of ethylene and at least one C₃ to C₈ alpha olefin.
14. A water-curable, silane modified polymer as defined in one or more of claims 11 to 13 wherein R¹ is hydrogen, an alkyl having a maximum of 4 carbon atoms or phenyl.
15. A water-curable, silane modified polymer as defined in one or more of claims 11 to 14 wherein said olefinic polymer is an alkylene-alkyl acrylate copolymer.
16. A process of preparing a water-curable, silane modified chlorosulfonated olefinic polymer which comprises reacting a mixture containing a chlorosulfonated olefinic polymer and a silane having the formula:



wherein X is oxygen, sulfur or nitrogen, R is a hydrocarbon radical or an oxy substituted hydrocarbon radical, each V is hydrogen, a hydrocarbon radical or a hydrolyzable group, Z is a hydrolyzable group, n is an integer having a value of one to 18, d is an integer having a value of zero or one and R¹ is hydrogen or a hydrocarbon radical.

17. A process as defined in claim 16 wherein said mixture contains an organo titanate.

18. A process as defined in either or both of claims 16 and 17 wherein said organo titanate is present in an amount of about 0.1 to about 20 percent by weight, preferably about 0.5 to about 10 percent by weight, and said silane is present in an amount of about 0.1 to about 50 percent by weight, preferably about 0.5 to about 10 percent by weight, based on the weight of a chlorosulfonated polymer containing about 0.5 to about 10 percent by weight sulfur.

19. A process as defined in one or more of claims 16 to 18 wherein said olefinic polymer is chlorosulfonated polyethylene and said silane is γ -(1,2-epoxyethane)-propyltrimethoxy silane and said organo titanate is tetraisopropyl titanate.

20. The cured product of the polymer defined in one or more of claims 11 to 15.

21. A wire or cable covered by the polymer of or cured polymer of one or more of claims 11 to 15 and 20.

(19)



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(54) Water-curable, silane modified chlorosulfonated olefinic polymers and a process for the preparation thereof.

(57) Water-curable, silane modified chlorosulfonated olefinic polymers, particularly desirable for use as coverings about wires and cables, produced by reacting a mixture containing a chlorosulfonated olefinic polymer and a hydrolyzable silane having cyclic oxygen, sulfur or nitrogen functionality.

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. CL.4)
A	GB-A-1 084 071 (DOW CORNING) * Claims 1-14; page 2, lines 18-40 * -----	1	C 08 F 8/42 C 08 F 8/38
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. CL.4)
			C 08 F C 08 K
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
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